JFK Assassination System Identification Form

Date: 5/11/201

Agency Information

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ORIGINATOR:

FBI

92-2940-7

FROM: PG

TO: HQ

TITLE:

DATE:

02/14/1958

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SUBJECTS:

SEBASTIAN JOHN LAROCCA

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3; 4; 10(a)2; 11(a)

CURRENT STATUS:

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DATE OF LAST REVIEW:

1,21,1999

OPENING CRITERIA:

INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF IRS

COMMENTS:

RPT

NUMBER

SUBSCRIBER

DATES CALLED

Diamond 7-7967

J. J. SCARDINA 1620 Farrell Terrace Farrell, Pa.

October 20 October 28 November 16 November 19

Regarding SCARDINA, on July 1, 1957, CHARLES RAY "RED" LA CAMERA (Fittsburgh top hoodlum) advised SA PORTELLA that he was engaged in handling numbers and bookmaking on a small scale and that he would never get big in this endeavor. LA CAMERA said that in the Sharon-Farrell, M., area, JOHN SCARDINA was the big number's baron and that all others merely worked for SCARDINA.

On January 27, 1958, Mrs. CLOVER GIBSON, Secretary, and Miss LORENA SANDERS, Clerk, Velda Rose Motel, Hot Springs, Arkansas, advised SA ROBERT E. HICKAM that records of that motel reveal that JOHN S. LA ROCCA, 500 North Craig Street, Pittsburgh, was registered in the Velda Rose Motel on October 22, 1957, with one JOHN SCARDINA, address not given and departed on November 8, 1957. Mrs. SANDERS advised that SCARDINA had made calls to Sharon, Diamond 7-7967, on October 22, 26, 30; and November 6, 1957.

T-3 advised that the following call was made from Forest 4 5296:

NUMBER

SUBSCRIBER

DATES CALLED

Apalachin 6-2711 JOSEPH BARBARA, SR Apalachin, New York

October 20,1957

JOSEPH BARBARA, SR., is an Albany top hoodlum, at whose home the Apalachin conference was held.

T-4 furnished a list of toll calls for the period November and December, 1956 and January to November 1957, for the telephone numbers Apalachin 62711 and Apalachin 22710, listed for JOSEPH BARBARA, Apalachin, to SA PATRICK A. MUNLEY.

It is noted that JEAN MANNARINO is the wife of KELLY MANNARINO (Pittsburgh top hooldum) who attended the Apalachin conference in New York.

Regarding LA ROCCA's association with JOE ROSA as was previously set out on January 14, 1958, Father JOSEPH SHEETZ, Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church, Pittsburgh, advised SA THOMAS G. FORSYTH, III, that he has in the past on many occasions had lunch or supper at the Genovese Cocktail Lounge, 412 Larimer Avenue, Pittsburgh, and has on several of these occasions observed JOHN LA ROCCA in the company of JOE ROSA, MIKE GENOVESE, SAM MANNARINO, and KELLY MANNARINO.

On January 14, 1958, T 7, who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that for the past several years, LA ROCCA has been a frequent visitor to the Genovese Lounge, Pittsburgh, and that at various times he has observed him in the company of such individuals as FRANK AMATO, SAM MANNARINO, JOE ROSA, KELLY MANNARINO, MIKE GENOVESE, ARCHIE NELSON and "BOOTS" BELLINI.

On January 16, 1957, Detective JOHN JAMES, Pittsburgh Police Department, advised SA FORSYTH of a confidential source who recently told him that SAM MANNARINO, KELLY MANNARINO, and JOHN LA ROCCA had close associations in Pittsburgh rackets.

Agent ARTHUR RUSTON, Internal Revenue Service IRS), Tax Unit, Binghamton, New York, noted

JFK Law 11 (a

Miss LORENA SANDERS, Clerk, Velda Rosa Motel, Hot Springs, furnished the following calls made by JOHN LA ROCCA on the dates set forth.

-17-

Release in Part
per IRS 7/14/98/90

92-2940-7 (19)

On January 14, 1958, JOSEPH BRUSCO, 207 Guyasuta Road, Fox Chapel, Pa., was interviewed at his bar at 549 North Homewood Avenue, Pittsburgh. BRUSCO allegedly had furnished information to ANDREW J. SUSCE, former IRS collector, Pittsburgh, regarding the number's activities of JOHN LA ROCCA. BRUSCO advised that the information he had given in the past was now "ancient history" and that at the time he furnished this information he did so only because he was pressured as regards to his own income tax. BRUSCO said he has long since terminated his number's business and has had no further association with number's writers in the Pittsburgh area. BRUSCO stated he knew JOHN LA ROCCA but advised he ,BRUSCO, was a small time operator. BRUSCO would neither confirm or deny that he had turned his numbers into JOHN LA ROCCA.

BRUSCO was adamant at the time of interview and obviously did not care to furnish any information of any kind.

On January 17, 1958, JACK MAZZA, retired city detective, advised that the numbers business in Pittsburgh is open to anyone or any faction who is or are able to pay off. the police. MAZZA said that in no instance is the numbers business controlled by any one man or any alleged syndicate. MAZZA said that in the days past JOHN LA ROCCA had a large numbers business in the East Liberty Section of Pittsburgh, but that over the course of time he has entered into a semi-retirement. MAZZA said that the biggest book in the East Liberty Section now is run by PHIL and MIKE GENOVESE and that he did not doubt that LA ROCCA still received a piece of this book. MAZZA stated that he had heard that MIKE GENOVESE attended the Apalachin conference on behalf of his brother PHIL GENOVESE and that the conference was conducted to establish a new boss. MAZZA declined to say where this information had come from and stated that he could not deny or affirm its veracity.

/JFK Law 11(a)

E. LEGITIMATE ENTERPRISES

24

92-2940-7 11A

H. PERSONAL HABITS AND PECULARITIES

No change is noted under this caption with exception of the information hereinbefore set forth that LA ROCCA associates with a prostitute by the name of FRANCES PRIAM.

I. GRAND JURY

On February 6,	1958, JUDD ME	CHLING, Deputy	U. S. Marshal for
the Western Di	strict of Penn	sylvania, at Pi	Lttsburgh, advised
		ds a subpoena i	
for an appeara	nce before the	Federal Grand	Jury of the
		on	to give

evidence in regard to an

MECHLING could not elaborate

upon this but did advise that a deputy marshal had visited the home of the subject at Ingomar and was advised by Mrs. LA ROCCA that the subject was "out of town" MECHLING said deputies were upon letter hims. MECHLING advised he would immediately motify the Puttsburgh Office should be receive any further information in this regard.

J. DESCRIPTION

Through observation, interview, and investigation, JOHN LA ROCCA is described as follows:

Race Sex Date of birth Place of birth

> Height Weight Hair Complexion Eyes Present address

Past address

White
Male
December 18, 1902
Villa Rosa, Caltanesetta,
Sicily, Italy
5'10"
200 lbs.
Black, graying
Dark
Brown
900 West Ingomar Road
Ingomar, Pa.
6426 Apple Street
Pittsburgh, Pa.

-27-

JFK Law 10(a)2

Marital status

wife

Married,

Date of birth April 2, 1910

MARY S. LA ROCCA

Place of birth Jessup, Pa.

Date of (

marriage

September 30, 1928, Pittston, Pa.

JOHN LA ROCCA

Son

Date of birth October 1, 1943

Adopted

TN HOWARD LESLIE HOFFMAN.

February 25, 1944 at Greensburg, Pa.,

through Westmoreland Orphans

Court

Brother

ANTHONY LA ROCCA

Date of birth May 14, 1912

Place of birth Whiskey Run, Indiana County

6323 Glenview Place

Pittsburgh

Employed

Residence

Barber, 8003 McKnight Road,

Pittsburgh

Brother

JOSEPH LA ROCCA

August 4, 1893 Date of birth

Place of birth Villa Rosa, Caltanesetta,

Sicily, Italy

Electric Transfer Residence

835 Farragut Street

Pittsburgh

Employed

Barber, Penn and Shady

Avenues, Pittsburgh Court of Common Pleas

Naturalized

Indiana County, March 5, 1924

Brother

Address

JOHN J. LA ROCCA

118-20 Walnut Street

Johnston, Pa.

Owner

Keystone Vending Co.

Johnston, Pa.

Sister

LEONA ROSE

Marital status Widow

Children

Residence

With daughter, Mrs. ANGELO

RICCI, Broadhead Rd.

Glenwillard, Pa.

-28-

INFORMANTS

INFORMANT	CONTACTED BY	DATE
T-l is AL BUCK, former Allegheny County Detective and Vice President of the Fidel Trust Company Loan Der Pittsburgh, (Oliver Building)		1/17/58 2/7/58
T-2 is former PCI	SA J. EDWARD KERN	7/50
T-3 is WILLIAM MEREDITH SA of Bell Telephone, whose identity is bein concealed due to his p T-4 is JOHN PERHACH, inves District Attorney's Office, Broome County, Binghamton, New York	oosition. Stigator SA PATRICK A. MUNLEY	12 <i>3</i> 0/57 2/11/58
T-5 is Mrs. MARGARITY JACK South Western Bell Telephone Company, Hot Springs, Arkansas, whose identity is bein concealed due to her position		1/22/58
T-6 is GEORGE M. KEEFER, Vice President, General Manager, North Pittsbu Telephone Co., Gibsoni Pa., identity being concealed due to his position	ırgh	1/16/58

INFORMANT CONTACTED BY	DATE
T-7 is VINCENT A. ROSELLA SA THOMAS G. FORSYTHE, III owner, Gulf Service Station, Larimer and Meadow, Pittsburgh, JFK Act 6 (4) who requested his identify be protected	
T-8 is PCI SAS WALL and 271 N. Craig Street NORMAN T. THOMPSON Pittsburgh	1/15/58
T-9 is HAROLD W. LAUVER SA WALL INS investigator, who requested that his identity relative to certain information furnished be concealed	
T-10 is ROBERT F. MEHRLING SA GENE H. STUDEBAKER Agent in Charge, Intelligence Division INS, 4th Ave, and Market St., Pittsburgh	12/10/57
T-ll is LEILA PATTON Philadelphia Agent Bell Telephone Co., Unknown Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	12/12/57 12/16/57

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			· 为4000年的全国的1000年
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1		1620 Farrell Terrace	October 28
		Farrell, Pa.	November 16
			November 19

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Release in part per IRS 7/14/98

-17-

92-2940-7 11(9)

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for an appearance before	the Federal G	cand Jury of t	he	
	on		7 to give JFK La	aw 10(a)2
				

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Date of birth
Place of birth

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Weight
Hair
Complexion
Eyes
Present address

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Male
December 18, 1902
Villa Rosa, Caltanesetta,
Sicily, Italy
5'10"
200 lbs.
Black, graying
Dark
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900 West Ingomar Road
Ingomar, Pa.

6426 Apple Street Pittsburgh, Pa.

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93-2940-7 10(9)(2)